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4.09.23

Lapid called for Heritage Minister Eliyahu's dismissal for incitement against security

4.09.23

Israeli far-right minister accuses security officials of rebellion

Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu echoes sentiment of National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir saying that actions of senior officials during the ongoing security escalations sabotage government's efforts to restore safety

Jessica Simon smiling for the camera

Moran Azulay|11:29

Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu accused senior security officials on Sunday of “acting in a rebellious manner” which he claimed hamstring the government's efforts to maintain peace as the country faces escalations on multiple fronts.

The Otzma Yehudit lawmaker's comments join those of National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir who was also quick to deflect the blame on the opposition and said it “emboldens Israel’s enemies.”

Eliyahu wrote the comments in response to a tweet that stated that despite the coalition being the most hardline in Israel’s history, it failed to ensure security as it had promised to do during the election campaign.

In response, the commenter lashed out at the minister, writing “All you do is whine, I didn’t vote for your excuses, I voted for you to bring about a change. If you feel like you can’t do that – step down.”

To this, Eliyahu replied, “Whenever I feel like I’m unable to do my duty – I’ll step down. I believe we need to reorganize and charge again. Of course, if there’s anything that needs fixing then we’re obligated to fix it.”

The minister also called for the annulment of the 1993 Oslo Accords signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization that led to the creation of the Palestinian Authority and Israel conceding territories.

Eliyahu said the revocation of the agreement would only happen “when the right-wing and religious public reaches key positions, and do not allow anti-democratic groups to hold democracy captive.”

According to him, “We’re in an ongoing struggle for our freedom and independence from all foreign entities trying to shape Israel’s image to their own.”

Opposition leader Yair Lapid called for Eliyahu’s dismissal, saying that “A minister who accuses security officials of rebellion must prove their claim or promptly be fired. The ongoing incitement against security forces is out of control.”

Following his comments on the opposition, Ben-Gvir also added that “I often find myself frustrated with certain decisions taken by the government. I mulled over quitting my position many times and supporting [the government] from the outside. Despite its shortcomings, the current government is better and more responsible than the previous one in every parameter.”

National Missions Minister Orit Strook said Saturday that the government must take responsibility for the recent events due to them happening “on our watch,” but then clarified her statement by saying, “We have to deal with things on the uneven footing created by the former government. We must work to rebuild our deterrence in all sectors.”

Since the beginning of the ongoing tensions, with the outbreak of riots on the Temple Mount complex, six rockets were fired at Israel from Syria, 37 from Lebanon, and around 100 from the Gaza Strip.

In addition, deadly terror attacks also took place in the West Bank - in which 15-year-old Rina Dee and 20-year-old Maia Dee were killed, and their 48-year-old mother Lucy Dee was seriously injured.

A second attack took place in Tel Aviv, where 35-year-old Alessandro Parini, an Italian tourist from Rome, was killed while walking with his colleagues on the Tel Aviv promenade.

4.09.23

Lebanon PM says Thursday rockets launched by PA people, not Lebanese

4.09.23

Hezbollah chief meets with Hamas leaders amid uptick in violence

Lebanon PM says rockets launched by people who were not Lebanese and that he opposes any threat of military escalation and further risk to stability; says aggressor react to violence at al Aqsa

Daniel Salami|03:28

Lebanese media reported on Sunday that the leader of the Iran-backed Hezbollah group, Hassan Nasrallah met in Beirut with Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh and his deputy Saleh al-Aroui, to discuss recent events in "occupied Palestine." Daniel Salami

The meeting took place at the same time the visit of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps, Quds Force chief Esmail Qaani was on a visit to Damascus.

According to the reports, Nasrallah and the Hamas leaders also discussed regional developments and the violent clashes at the al Aqsa mosque during Ramadan prayers.

Head of Lebanon's caretaker government Najib Mikati in his first reaction to the launching of rockets from his territory and the Israeli attacks in response, said those who fired at Israel were not Lebanese. "The launches were in reaction to events at al Aqsa," he said. "We oppose any military escalation and any act that could further destabilize Lebanon," he said.

On Thursday, dozens of rockets were fired at northern Israel by Hamas operatives based in southern Lebanon prompting Israeli air raids on Palestinian targets around the southern city of Tyre.

Israeli military sources confirmed that Israel avoided targeting Hezbollah and Lebanese military bases and saw the Hamas terror group as responsible for the rocket fire.

Hezbollah issued a statement at the time, distancing itself from the fire.

On Friday, the IDF took down a drone that had crossed the border from Lebanon, the second such aircraft in a week.

4.09.23

US leaks; Mossad encouraged junior employees to participate in protests

4.09.23

U.S. documents leak: Israel's Mossad encouraged anti-government protests

The documents say Mossad chiefs 'advocated' for Mossad officials and Israeli citizens to protest against the new Israeli government's proposed judicial reforms seen as an assault on Israeli democracy
i24NEWS|01:00

The leaked Pentagon documents circulating on social media alleged that the leadership of Israel's spy agency Mossad encouraged Israelis to participate in mass protests against the government's judicial reform plan.

The leaked materials contain an assessment by a Central Intelligence Update dated March 1. It said that the Mossad chiefs "advocated for Mossad officials and Israeli citizens to protest against the new Israeli government's proposed judicial reforms, including several explicit calls to action that decried the Israeli government."

According to The New York Times, senior U.S. officials confirmed that the leaked documents appear to contain legitimate intelligence reports. However, at least some of them had been modified and the accuracy of the documents is under question.

Despite several hundreds of former Mossad employees signing an anti-reform letter earlier in March, the agency's rules prohibit the direct involvement of its leadership in political crisis. However, some Mossad employees received permission to participate in protests as private citizens, the report claimed.

According to the publication, Mossad chief David Barnea upon consulting with Israel's attorney general also allowed junior employees to participate in demonstrations under the condition that they would not identify themselves as members of the agency.

Senior Israeli defense officials denied the reports, while the prime minister's office told The New York Times that they were looking into them. The U.S. Department of Justice said earlier on Saturday that it had opened a probe into the leak.

"We have been in communication with the Department of Defense related to this matter and have begun an investigation," a Justice Department spokesperson told AFP.

Dozens of leaked documents, mostly related to the Ukraine war, have surfaced on Twitter, Telegram, Discord and other social media in recent days. On Friday, the Pentagon said it was "actively reviewing" the matter.

Distributed by i24NEWS

4.07.23

Ben-Gvir spar with Gantz & Lapid; you would host the PA terrorist in your home

4.07.23

Ben-Gvir spars with Gantz, Lapid

The National Security Minister's post explaining why he remains in the government brought a rash of criticisms from the opposition leaders.
Israel National News Apr 7, 2023, 6:16 PM (GMT+3)

National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir commented on Facebook about the shooting in the Jordan Valley: "I cannot say what is being done in the confidential meetings led by Prime Minister Netanyahu. Toppling or leaving the government is not an option - flawed as it is, it is many times better than its predecessor. We are doing a lot, but change will not happen in a day, certainly not against years of worldview. Still, we promised a genuine right-wing government, and I will work as hard as I can to deliver it."

Opposition leader Yair Lapid denounced the statement: "On this sad day, a few hours after the murder of two young sisters, the Minister of Tiktok Affairs Ben-Gvir chooses to publish a wretched and whiny post in which he is only running away from responsibility and looking for culprits for the failures he signed. I don't want to think what he would say about this failed government if he was in the opposition. My heart goes out to the family who lost their two daughters. There is no comfort. Shabbat Shalom."

National Unity leader Benny Gantz criticized Ben-Gvir as well: "Minister Ben-Gvir's statement is a complete loss of temper. There has never been a cabinet minister who talked so much about security and understood so little. There has never been a minister in the cabinet who, while rockets are being fired at our citizens and our daughters are being murdered on the roads, chooses to sabotage the cohesion of Israeli society and undermine deterrence. Netanyahu should condemn his statement and fire him."

Minister Ben-Gvir retorted: "Hey Mr. Gantz - On the one hand, you would still host the terrorist Abu Mazen in your home. On the other hand, to give him half a billion as a reward for the salaries of terrorists, and to open security barriers as a reward for terrorism - you cannot do that any longer. Nor to surrender in Lebanon. On your watch, terrorism jumped by hundreds of percent per year. How can a unfaithful person like you still give advice?"

4.07.23

One dead, six injured in car-ramming attack at Tel Aviv beach promenade

4.07.23

At least one dead and six injured in a terror attack in Tel Aviv

A 30-year-old Italian tourist died and four others were wounded when a terrorist rammed his car into them on the Tel Aviv promenade; A police officer opened fire and killed him, the police says

Ynet|13:57

At least one person was murdered and six others injured in a suspected terror attack in Tel Aviv on Friday night in a car-ramming attack on the Tel Aviv beach promenade. The terrorist was shot and killed by a police officer, Israel Police said.

MDA chief Eli Bin said one person was killed and four others injured in a car-ramming attack at the Tel Aviv beach promenade. "We are still checking if any more people were hurt and had left the scene to seek shelter," Bin said.

Two of the injured were suffering mild injuries and were transported to the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon while four others were taken to Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital. Hospital officials said they received two patients suffering moderate injuries and two with lightly hurt, all wounded in their lower extremities.

The terrorist was identified as Yosef Abu J'aber who had an Israeli I.D. card and was from the Arab city of Kfar Qasim in the center of the country.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ordered a call-up of Border Police reserves and reserve forces for the military, after being briefed of the deadly terror strike in Tel Aviv. The attack came hours after two sisters from the West Bank Settlement of Efrat were murdered in a drive-by shooting attack and their mother suffered critical wounds and was fighting for her life at the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem.

During a visit to the scene, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said Israel was in the midst of a terror attack. "Our forces, including the military, the Shin Bet, The Mossad and the police are prepared to respond to any event and carry out their duties," he said.

A spokesman for the Hamas terror group said the attacks on the West Bank and in Tel Aviv were an example of the resistance's ability to cause harm to the occupation and were a response to the clashes at the al Aqsa mosque.

4.07.23

Two daughters dead, mother seriously hurt in a West Bank drive-by shooting

4.07.23

Two daughters dead, mother seriously hurt in a suspected West Bank terror attack
Emergency teams find the women shot in a car that showed signs of gunfire, the two sisters proclaimed dead on the scene and their mother suffering serious wounds airlifted by military chopper to hospital; IDF launches a manhunt while Palestinian sources say the assailants fled the scene

Ynet|03:35

Two sisters in their 20s were killed and a their mother was in critical condition on Friday in a drive-by shooting attack on the West Bank. The father who was traveling separately was witness to the shooting.

Emergency teams said the car which was hit by bullets had lost control and crashed and hit another vehicle on the road.

The IDF began a manhunt to apprehend the assailant's vehicle while Palestinian sources say the two terrorists escaped the scene and Defense Minister Yoav Galant convened a security meeting with military and security officials.

MDA paramedic Dennis Polkov said the young women were already dead when the emergency team arrived. "We pulled them out of the car but had to pronounce the dead and the third woman who was older, was suffering a multi-system failure and had to be given life-saving attention on the scene," he said. She was later taken by a military chopper to a hospital in Jerusalem.

The IDF confirmed the drive-by shooting was a terror attack and that its forces were in pursuit of the killers. Roadblocks have been set up in the area and the military was investigating whether the terrorists had driven towards Jerricho.

That area had been the scene of a number of deadly attacks in recent months after years of relative calm. American-Israeli Elan Ganeles, 26 was killed in a similar drive-by shooting attack in February.

The attack follows rioting on the West Bank over police clashes with worshippers at the Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem on Thursday and rocket fire launched from Gaza at Israel's south into the morning hours on Friday.

The IDF struck Hamas targets in the Strip including attack tunnels and weapon production sites.

4.06.23

Lebanon city Tyre fired dozens of rockets onto Galilee; rockets were intercepted

4.06.23

Rocket sirens blare throughout northern Israel, multiple rockets intercepted

Fighter jets scrambled to Lebanon border area; man mildly hurt from shrapnel as dozens of rockets fired into country's north in worst escalation since 2006 war

Yoav Zitun, Daniel Salami|Updated:08:08

Rocket sirens blared throughout northern Israel on Thursday and the army confirmed the Iron Dome missile defense system intercepted multiple rockets fired from Lebanon in the worst escalation on the northern front since the 2006 war against Hezbollah.

The first rocket was fired into northern Israel around 2:30pm. The army said that the projectile was shot down successfully by Iron Dome.

Some 20 minutes after the initial launch, a heavy volley of dozens of rockets rained upon Western Galilee communities.

The airspace over northern Israel was shuttered as fighter jets and drones scrambled to the border area.

The IDF responded with artillery fire toward several locations south of the Lebanese city of Tyre.

One man was reportedly mildly injured from shrapnel in the village of Fassouta south of the Lebanese border. Another rocket reportedly crashed in the northern community of Shlomi. There were no reports of injuries.

According to the Magen David Adom ambulance service, a woman suffered light injuries while running for the bomb shelter and another suffered shock.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said that the premier was being updated on the situation and will hold a situation assessment with the heads of the defense establishment.

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said that he "passed initial instructions to the IDF Chief of Staff and the defense establishment."

Such a significant rocket attack has not occurred in the north for nearly two years. In August 2021, over 20 rockets were launched into the northern Golan and Galilee; however, only isolated rockets have been fired since then.

First published: 15:10, 04.06.23

4.06.23

Finland, the 31st member of NATO Tuesday, buying Israeli anti-missile system

4.06.23

Amid Moscow threats, Finland to purchase Israeli David's Sling anti-missile system
After accession into NATO and subsequent threats from Kremlin, Helsinki says will procure medium to long-range missile defense system for \$345 million

ynet|05:24

A day after Finland's official accession to NATO and amid threats from Russia of a potential escalation, the Nordic country's Defense Ministry announced Wednesday night an agreement to purchase Israel's mid- to long-range air defense system David's Slingshot.

Russia's Medvedev warns Israel giving arms to Ukraine would 'destroy' ties

According to the announcement, the deal is worth \$345 million with potential additional purchase of \$236 million in the future.

However, the deal is subject to approval from the U.S. government, with which the system was developed in collaboration.

"This acquisition will create a new capability for the Finnish Defence Forces to intercept targets at high altitude. At the same time we are continuing the ambitious and long-term development of Finland's defense capability in a new security environment," said Defense Minister Antti Kaikkonen, referring to last year's Russian invasion of Ukraine, which caused Finland to abandon its long-held neutral military policy.

This policy had been in place for decades due to the country's extensive border with Russia, spanning a length of 1,340 km (830 miles).

According to reports, this marks the first export deal ever for the David Sling air defense system, which was jointly developed by state-owned Rafael Advanced Defense Systems and the U.S. defense contractor Raytheon. The system, formerly known as "Magic Wand," entered operational service in Israel in 2016.

Following its application after the advent of the war in Ukraine, Finland became the 31st member of NATO on Tuesday after its membership was ratified by all member states, including Turkey, which posed challenges during the approval process.

Helsinki's accession to the military bloc is considered a political and strategic blow for Russian President Vladimir Putin, who for a long time has condemned NATO expansion along Russia's borders.

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg stated on Tuesday that this historic event is a direct consequence of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which is not a NATO member.

He also confirmed that the military alliance will ensure that Sweden, which submitted its application to join together with Finland, will also become a member. Sweden is currently awaiting approval from Turkey and Hungary.

The Kremlin strongly rejected Finland's accession to NATO, warning that it would bolster its military presence in areas near NATO borders.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov claimed that Finland's accession to NATO would undermine Russia's security. In a threatening message to Helsinki, he added that Russia would take measures to ensure its security is maintained.

4.05.23

Released: The 13 detainees on the way to a Passover sacrifice on Temple Mount

4.05.23

Released: The 13 detainees on the way to a Passover sacrifice on Temple Mount

The "Returning to the Temple Mount" movement: We have taken another important step on the way to renewing the work of sacrifices in the holiest place for the people of Israel.
Orli Harari Apr 5, 2023, 5:44 PM (GMT+3)

Thirteen Jews, activists of the "Returning to the Temple Mount" movement who tried to offer a Passover sacrifice in what they call the "Passover Sacrifice Operation", were arrested by the police in Jerusalem.

Five goats were seized by the police and confiscated, and two activists received an administrative removal order signed by Homefront Command Major Rafi Milo.

All the detainees were released under restrictive conditions. The district court canceled the restrictions imposed earlier this week on Raphael Morris, the chairman of the movement.

The movement offered this statement: "A big thank you to all the dedicated activists who came to Jerusalem today intending to offer the Passover sacrifice, especially to the Honenu organization and attorney Nati Rom for the legal assistance provided to all the detainees."

Yesterday, against the background of reports and intentions to offer a Passover sacrifice on the Temple Mount, Rabbi of the Western Wall Shmuel Rabinovitch prohibited the bringing of animals to the Mughrabi Gate. The Western Wall Heritage Foundation prevented the entry of animals into the area in accordance with regulations governing the holy places.

It was reported that "the Western Wall Heritage Foundation operates according to the instructions of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel, which for generations has opposed any act of this kind, and under the authority of the Western Wall Rabbi, has been preventing such actions for years, and will continue to do so this year as well."

On Monday, the Chief Sephardic Rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Yitzhak Yosef, sharply criticized those who went up to the Temple Mount and those who call to go up there. "According to the Halacha, there is a strict and absolute prohibition to go up to the Temple Mount. The dangerous calls to go up to the Temple Mount on the eve of Passover, in particular, and in general, are irresponsible and contrary to Halacha. No man or woman should trample the Halacha by going up to the Mount," said Rabbi Yosef.

The rabbi also said: "The seal with a prayer for a complete redemption and hope that our prayer will be accepted and we will be healed and we will be able to eat there from the sacrifices and from the Passovers, happy in the building of your city and happy in your work."

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Ynet-News, April 05, 2023 – Wednesday

Passover started Sundown April 4 Tu, & First Fruits April 12 We

4.05.23 – We- - - News Placed in April 05 spot – Wednesday Pesach
Police arrest masked Jews in al Aqsa mosque, intending Passover Sacrifice

4.05.23 – We- - - News Placed in April 04 spot – Tuesday Pesach
Police attacked 400 PA at Temple Mount; Hamas states will lead to a large explosion

4.04.23 – Tu- - - News Placed in April 03 spot – Monday Pesach at sundown
Police arrest Gazan converting millions to cryptocurrency at several locations

4.05.23 – We- - - News – Wednesday Pesach
18 Gaza Rockets prompt Ben-Gvir to convene security cabinet & respond with force

4.03.23 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Israel launches fresh strikes on Damascus Airport area and south

4.03.23 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Palestinian gunmen in a vehicle open fire at kibbutz from across Green Line

4.02.23 – Su- - - News Placed in April 02 spot – Sunday

Israel shot down drone aircraft breaching Syria border, suspected to be Iranian made

4.02.23 – Su- - - News – Sunday

Third missile strike near Lebanese border in four days on Iranian-backed Hezbollah

4.01.23 – Sa- - - News Placed in April 01 spot – Saturday

PA motorist accelerates & hits Israeli pedestrians in West Bank car-ramming attack